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THE

Vocal Parts

OF AN

ENTERTAINMENT,

CALL'D THE

NECROMANČER,

OR,

Harlequin Doctor FAUSTUS.

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THE

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ENTERTAINMENT,

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NECROMANCER:

OR,

Harlequin Doctor Faustus.

As Perform'd at the

Theatre Royal in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields.

To which is PREFIX'D,

A fhort Account of Doctor Faustus; and how he came to be reputed a MAGICIAN.

LONDON:

Printed, and Sold at the Book-feller's Shop, at the Corner of Searle-fireet, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, and by A. Dodd at the Peacock, without Temple-Bar. 1723.

Price fix Pence.

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A SHORT

ACCOUNT

OF

Doctor Faustus, &c.



F Doctor Faustus was ambitious of being thought a Necromancer, it was no very hard Matter, at the Time in which he liv'd, to obtain such a Character; and Tradition has been very faithful in sup-

porting that Honour to him, which Ignorance and Credulity were, at first, so forward to give into.

He was born in Germany, about the Beginning of the 14th Century, a Period of Dullness and Barbarism. Monkery and Imposition pre-

vi A short Account of Dr. Faustus, &c.

vail'd much stronger than, perhaps, they ever will again: And Knowledge was in so few Hands, that an uncommon Share of Learning, or uncommon Qualifications, were sufficient to

make a Man thought a Conjurer.

Add to this, That Faustus took his Studies at Cracovia, a Place in Germany, where, as we are told, the Art of Magick was formerly profess'd, and taught in publick Schools. He turn'd his occult Qualities to the best Account he could; and as the Age was easy to swallow the Belief of his supernatural Power, he stroi'd about from Place to Place, both to propagate his Reputation, and enhance his Prosit.

What particular Artifices he was Master of, are but very darkly handed down to us; and some Circumstances that are related, are so abfurd, that they will scarce bear a second Tel-

ling.

Tis certain, Superstition look'd upon him as a Person in League with Insernal Spirits, and acting a thousand strange Things by their Assistance. *Lonicerus, in his Zeal, calls him a most unclean Beast, and a Sink of many Devils; and says, that he had a Familiar always attending him in the Shape of a Dog. That his Inchantments and Diabolical Practices had like to have drawn a Prosecution upon him, and that he

^{*} In his Theatrum Historicum, translated from the German of Andreas Hondorff.

A short Account of Dr. Faustus, &c. vii

very narrowly escap'd being seiz'd at Wittemberg. The same Author has given us an Account of his Death, as remarkable as any thing else that is recorded of him. The Night before he dyed, his Landlord taking Notice that he appear'd very Melancholy, was importunate to know the Occasion: But Faustus waving a direct Answer, bad his Landlord not to be frighten'd that Night, whatever Noise he heard, or however the House should be shaken. When the Morning came, Faustus was found dead in his Apartment, with his Neck twisted round.

tWierus, in the Account which he gives of Faustus, relates his putting a Trick upon a Chaplain, in a Story which proves rather his waggish and unluckly Disposition, than any Confederacy with the Devil. And ‡ Camerarius likewise, who recounts an Action of him, in which, if it was true, some Magical Deception must have been used; Yet gives his Story such a Turn, that he owns the Thing ridiculous, tho diabolical. Both of them, however, seem to espouse the receiv'd Opinion of his being a Magician: And the latter of the m relates the Manner of his Death, as if he thought that he was strangled by the Devil, upon the Expiration of his Contract.

Another Author gives us yet greater Reason to suspect, that Faustus not only profess'd Magick,

[†] De Prastigiis Damonum. ‡ Opera Subcisiva: Centuria Prima. § Foh. Manlius in Collettaneis suis.

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but grew prefumptious upon the Opinion of his extraordinary Power. For, at Venice, he gave out that he would fly thro' the Air, and accordingly put his Promise into Execution. But the Devil, or his Skill, so fail'd him in his pretended Flight, that he was dash'd violently against the Ground, and almost bruis'd to Death with his Fall.

Thus far, all the Writers (at least, all that I have met with) who strike in with the Superstition of his being a Magician: But a later Writer, ‡ (in a Tract printed at Wittemberg, in 1683.) has examin'd what Credit is to be given to these Relations: And whether there ever was such a Sorcer, as Faustus is pretended to have been. I must confess, I have not been able to meet with this Piece; so cannot tell to what Cause he imputes the Tradition of Faustus being reputed a Conjurer.

But this Author is not the only Person who had a Suspicion of the Fable: And therefore I shall subjoin here a probable Narrative, how Faufus came into such Vogue and Reputation at that

time of Day.

About the middle of the 14th Century, LAU-RENCE COSTER, at Mentz in Germany, invented the Rudiments of Printing; which was at first in Gothick Characters, and resembling the

[‡] Johannes Georg. Neumannus in Dissertat. de Fausto Prastigia-

A short Account of Dr. Faustus, &c. ix Hand-Writings used at that Time. As soon as he had improved his Art to some Degree of Perfection, John Faustus, who work'd under him, (and who is probably the same who has since obtain'd the Title of Doctor Faustus) took the Opportunity of the Christmas-Vigils, stole all his Master's Types and other Implements, and made off with them. In a few Years, Faustus with these Materials, printed off an Edition of the Bible upon Parchment, and carried it with him to Paris.

As this new Invention had yet got no Air in that Country, it was a Surprize to find Fauftus proffer his Books to Sale at a Price ten times lower than They had ever paid for Manuscripts. As the Impression too so nearly resembled the Hand-Writing then in Use; and as, upon Comparison, they sound every Copy so exactly the same, not a Stop differing, nor a Letter more in one Page than another, they grew astonish'd to see such a Number of Bibles all transcrib'd, as they thought, by one Hand: A Labour that would have requir'd more Time to accomplish, than the Life of a Patriarch.

The Confequence of this was, that they wifely suspected, Faustus must have dealt with the Devil, and hereupon accus'd him of Magick. He, apprehending the Danger of such a Prosecution, sted from Paris, return'd into Germany, and there undertook to teach the Art of Prin-

ting.

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Whoever is defirous of reading this Part of his Story more at large, may find it in the Annales Typographici, &c. publish'd about four Years ago, by Mr. MATTAIRE.

The Theatres having reviv'd the Memory of Faustus, by drawing him into their Grotesques; I thought fome Curiolity might be excited of knowing who he was: And that therefore this fhort Account might be acceptable, prefix'd to the Vocal Parts of an Entertainment, which takes its Name from Him.





The Characters introduced in the Vocal Parts.

By

Infernal } Mr. Leveridge.

Helen, Mrs. Chambers.

A Good & Spirit. Bad

Leander, Hero, Charon, Mr. La Guerre. Mrs. Chambers. Mr. Leveridge.



THE

NECROMANCER:

OR,

Harlequin, Doctor Faustus.

S C E N E, a Study.

The Doctor discover'd reading at a Table.

A good and bad Spirit appear.

Good SPIRIT.



Faustus! thy good Genius warns; Break off in time; pursue no more An Art, that will thy Soul ensnare.

Bad SPIRIT.

Faustus, go on: That Fear is vain;
Let thy great Heart aspire to trace
Dark Nature to her secret Springs,

'Till Knowledge make thee deem'd a God.

[Good and bad Spirit disappear The Doctor uses magical Motions and an Insernal Spirit rises.

Infernal Spirit.

Behold! thy pow'rful Charms prevail,
And draw me from the Deeps below,
To listen to thy great Command.
On easy Terms the King of Night
Is pleas'd thy mighty Wand t' obey,
And offers to divide his Pow'r.

Sign thy Consent his Sway to own,

[Shews a Papera

Ten thousand Demons stand prepar'd,

Thro!

Thro' Seas, thro' Air, thro' raging Fires, To start, and execute thy Will.

Good SPIRIT.

O Faustus! fear the dread Event. [Within.

Infernal Spirit.

Think, what Renown, what Treasures wait (thee;

Each glitt'ring Vein, that Earth infolds, Shall spread its ripen'd Ores for thee.

Good SPIRIT.

Think, Vengeance is offended Heav'n's!

[Within.

Infernal Spirit.

Heav'n envies not poor Mortals Bliss.

Thy Spirit is dull: --Our Art shall chear thee,

And chase this unavailing Gloom.

- B 2

I'N-

INCANTATION.

Arise! Ye subtle Forms, that sport 'Around the Throne of sable Night: Whose Pleasures, in her silent Court, Are unprophan'd with baleful Light.

Arise! the Screech-Owl's Voice proclaims,

Darkness is in her awful Noon.

The Stars keep back their glimm'ring Flames,

And Veils of Clouds shut in the Moon.

[Here Furies rife, and dance, then vanish.

Infernal Spirit.

Still art Thou fad? ---- Awake to Joy:

[Strikes the Table, and it appears cover d with Gold, Crowns, Sceptres, &c.

See! --- Wealth unbounded courts thy Hand.
Is it despis'd? --- Then other Charms,

With

With full Delight, shall feast thy Sense.

[Waves bis Wand.

Helen, appear! In Bloom and Grace Lovely, as when thy Beauties shone, And fir'd the amorous Prince of Troy.

[The Spirit of Helen rifes.

HELEN.

Why am I drawn from blifsfull Shades, Where happy Pairs the circling Hours In never-fading Transports wear, And find Delights with Time renew? Say, what deferving Youth to bless, Is Helen call'd to Earth again? Shew me the dear inchanting Form, Where Truth and Constancy reside, And I embrace the noble Flame.

Cupid! God of pleasing Anguish,

Teach th' enamour'd Swain to languish,

Teach him sierce Desires to know.

Heroes would be lost in Story,

Did not Love inspire their Glory,

Love does all that's Great below.

[The Doctor preparing to address Helen with Fondness, the Infernal Spirit interposes.

Infernal Spirit.

Hold; — and the Terms of Pleasure know; This Contract sign, thy Faith to bind,

[Offers the Paper.

Then revel in Delight at large, And give a Loofe to Joy.

[The Doctor, gazing at Helen, signs the Paper, and gives it to the Infernal Spirit: After which, attempting to approach Helen, the Phantom of Envy interferes. The Doctor starts, and turns in Surprize to the Infernal Spirit, who sinks laughing, as having deceived him. The Doctor retires discontented, and the Scene closes.

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SCENE,

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The DOCTOR's School of MAGICK.

Several Persons seated on each side of the Stage, to see the Power of his Art. The Doctor waves his Wand, and the Spirits of Hero and Leander rise.

LEANDER.

Felt the Severities of Fate:
Drencht in the falt and fwelling Surge,
We found one common Grave. --- And now,
If what the Poets fing be true,
In flow'ry Fields, the Seats affign'd
For happy Souls, shall we enjoy
A long Eternity of Bliss.

HERO:

Grant me, ye Pow'rs, wheree'er my Lot is plac'd;
To have my lov'd Leander there;
And I no other Bliss require.

LEANDER.

O charming Hero! Times to come Shall celebrate thy Name:
And Lovers dwell upon the Praise Of thy unequall'd Constancy.

While on ten thousand Charms I gazes
With Love's Fires my Bosom burns:

But, ah! so bright thy Virtues blaze,

Love to Adoration turns.

While on ten thousand Charms I gaze,
With Love's Fires my Bosom burns.

HERO.

HERO.

O my Soul's Joy! To hold thee thus,
Repays for all my Sorrows past:
Crown'd with this Pleasure, I forgive
The raging Wind and dashing Stream,
And welcome Death, that brings me back to
(thee.

Blest in thy Arms, the gloomy Vales,
Where shudd'ring Ghosts with Horror glide,
Gay as Elysium, seem to smile,
And all is Paradise around.

Cease, injurious Maids, to blame
A Fondness which you ne'er have known:

Feel but once the Lover's Flame,
The Fault will soon become your own.

Cease, injurious Maids, to blame
'A Fondness which you ne'er have known.

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(14)

CHARON rifes to them.

CHARON.

What mean this whining, pining Pair,

Must I for You detain my Fare?

Or do your Wisdoms think my Wherry

Should wait your Time to cross the Ferry?

LEANDER.

Charon, thy rigorous Humour rule.

CHARON.

And stand to hear a Love-sick Fool,
Talk o'er the Cant of Flames, —and Darts,—
And streaming Eyes, — and bleeding Hearts?
Give o'er this Stuff. —Why, what the Devil!
Won't Drowning cure this amorous Evil?
I thought, when once Mens Heads were laid,
Their Passions with their Lives had sled:
But find, tho' Flesh and Blood no more,
The Whims i'th' Brain maintain their Pow'r.

HERO.

Oh! could thy favage Nature measure

The Joys of Love, th' inchanting Pleasure,—

CHARON.

No Doubt, you Women may discover Pleasures in a substantial Lover;
But what great Transports can you boast,
To find from One, that is, at most,
But a thin, unperforming, Ghost?
Away; for, on the distant Shore,
Pluto expects my Cargo o'er:
The crowded Boat but waits for you;
Come, join with its fantastick Crew.

Ghosts of every Occupation,
Every Rank, and every Nation,
Some with Crimes all foul, and spotted,
Some to happy Fates allotted,
Press the Stygian Lake to pass.

Here

Here a Soldier roars like Thunder,
Prates of Wenches, Wine, and Plunder:
States-men here the Times accusing,
Poets Sense for Rhymes abusing;
Lawyers chatt'ring,
Courtiers flatt'ring,
Bullies ranting,
Zealots canting,
Knaves and Fools of every Class!

[At the End of the Air Hero, Leander, and Charon vanish.

FINIS.



























